

from the desk of

# STATE REPRESENTATIVE CHRISTINE COCKLEY



MARCH 2025 | STATEHOUSE UPDATE | HOUSE DISTRICT 6



Rep. Cockley presents a commendation to the President and CEO of National Church Residences, Susan DiMichele, for Clover Grove's ribbon cutting

## Dear District 6 Neighbor,

Happy March! The month of February was nothing short of an adventure. I have been diving into committees, hosting district office hours, meeting with key stakeholders, and drafting legislation. As I continue this work, I want you to know that you are always welcome to reach out to my office and I am grateful to those who have already done so. *Please continue to reach out to me and my staff with any thoughts, questions, or concerns.* We are always here to help however we can.

In recent weeks, my colleagues and I have also been focused on the upcoming state budget for fiscal years 2026-2027. This budget is crucial as it affects the agencies, schools, institutions, and organizations that keep our state running and provide vital services to our citizens. I've heard from many of you about concerns regarding funding for libraries, Medicaid, and local schools. As the budget process continues, I want to ensure your priorities are heard in this process and beyond. To do so, my office has created a **community needs assessment form**. To share your input with me, **simply scan the QR code on the second page of this newsletter**. Your voice matters, and we want to make sure it's part of these conversations.

Yours in service,

*Christine Cockley*



Rep. Cockley with Hilltop RISE's new Executive Director, Danny Peterson, Chairwoman Betty Held Jaynes and former Director Morgan DeBoth



Freedom a la Cart legislative meet and greet with CEO Paula Haines and Board Member Ada Nwoke



Prairie Township meeting with Trustee Rod Pritchard and Township Administrator James Jewell



PAST Foundation, a non-profit provider of STEM education, curriculum design, and workforce development here in Columbus. Tour with Rep. Cockley

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



## AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE HEARS UPDATE ON AVIAN INFLUENZA



Rep Cockley during Agriculture Committee

For this month's newsletter, I wanted to give an update on my work on the Agriculture Committee. During the last few weeks, we have been hearing from various organizations and state agencies such as the Ohio Air Quality Development, the Casino Control Racing Commission, and the Ohio State Racing Committee on their upcoming budget requests. In addition to those budget testimonies, we recently heard an update from the Ohio Poultry Association on the Avian Influenza Outbreak (Bird Flu). As a chicken owner myself, making sure we are doing everything within our power to prevent further outbreak is a priority of mine.

Ohio has currently lost over twelve million egg laying hens, pullets, turkeys, and ducks in West Central Ohio, with Drake and Mercer counties being hit the hardest. More than 150 million birds on commercial poultry operations have been removed, along with a small percentage of humans. The first death occurred earlier this year, but the committee and stakeholders are working diligently to ensure this number does not increase. I want to recognize the farmers, poultry companies/ industry, and local communities for their commitment to serving Ohio's people and the Ohio Department of Agriculture for their work in handling this outbreak.

We in the committee continue to support poultry lab testing, field collection samples, and veterinarians taking a look at live birds coming into Ohio to help prevent the spread of this flu. Through proactive action we hope to decrease poultry prices in grocery stores and restaurants in the upcoming future.

### MY OFFICE CAN ALSO HELP WITH THE FOLLOWING:

- Disputes with state agencies
- Commendations and condolences
- Hearing opinions or concerns with bills moving through the legislature
- Connecting you or your business to state programs and services
- Connecting you with neighborhood resources
- Testifying before a House Committee

### CONTACT INFORMATION



[Rep06@OhioHouse.gov](mailto:Rep06@OhioHouse.gov)



(614) 644-6005



[Facebook.com/RepCockley](https://www.facebook.com/RepCockley)



[@RepCockley](https://twitter.com/RepCockley)

Do you live or work in District 6? Please fill out our community assessment form!



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR MY NEXT OPEN OFFICE HOURS ON MARCH 28  
11:30 AM TO 2:30 PM AT THE WESTLAND AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Reply to this email to unsubscribe.